Tolleville Pa. 23rd. May 1892.

Prof: Asa Gray LL.D.

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I fear you have called on you at Newport, bearer of a letter from our friend W. S. Sullivant of Columbus. If is the second time that I am trying to make your personal acquaintance and I would have been very happy to find you. Sullivant's letter tell you who I am and perhaps Dr Gray or Mr John Carey might have mention my name to you. I am writing a prepared for publication the American mosses which I collected in different journeys especially in North Alabama Georgia and both Carolinas, 300 species in number, comprising the species collected by Curtis on the white Mountains and bought by Mr Sullivant. The Sphagnum Torreyanum, is the only species of which I have too few specimens and I would have been very happy to receive from you some indications about the locality where it grows and the best places where I should go in New Jersey for the collecting of mosses and also of Cryptogamous plants. As I am quite deaf, if I had had the pleasure to see you, you would have had much trouble to speak with me and perhaps on account of this infirmity you will be kind enough to give me by a letter the indications which I want. I am now engaged in the geological stat survey of Pennsylvania for the study of the ferns plants, but I want to find opportunity to make an excursion in the New Jersey swamps. - I am going to receive the

Given by A. M. VAIL. from D. G. Crosthe Collection
MAR 4 - 1907

more to the great Smoky mountains and Southern Virginia and shall be back in a week or so. This would be the best season to find the Sphagna in fruit.

In my journey in the mountains of the Southern states, I found many new mosses, especially 3 or 4 new Sphagna. I had also among my phenogamous plants a few one which I could not determine and which I had with me when I called on you. Perhaps Mr John Carey has communicated them to you. There is in North Alabama, along the Racoon Mt and Lookout Mt many fine localities where I found scarce plants and some new ones. Did you want any information about those places which want a closer and longer exploration than I could do, having too large a county to explore, I would be very glad to give you the most detailed account of my journey and also of the best conveyance which might be used to go there.

Please to excuse this letter and my imperfect language and believe that I am very respectfully yours

Léo Lesquereux

My adress is Fothville. Co.

MAR 4 - 1907

Tallsville June 3th 1852.

TORREY CORRESPONDENCE
HERBARIUM
COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY.

Dear Sir.

Returning from the Dismall swamp, I find here your very Kind and amiable letter and assure you that I am very gratefull for it and for the directions that you give me about the swamps of New-Jersey. I will try to go to Quaker bridge next week; it would be the best season to find Sph: Torreyanum in fruit. I prepared myself the specimens from the bundle that you sent to M. Sullivant; but only when our friend had picked out what he wanted for communication; I have scarcely fifty specimens left and they are poor. And as I prepared the american mosses at 100 specimens this fine Sphagnum is one of the few species which is Deficient in number. I hope that you will be pleased with the preparation and appearence of our mosses. The specimens are as handsom as those of M. Sullivants Alleghanies mosses and the greatest part have fruit. and there is also one hundred species more. If this collection goes well and — is easily sold, I will prepare the hepaticæ for a second bundle. Do you think the price would be too high at $5 per hundred The specimens are glued on white paper and will be enclosed in a portfolio or in a bundle, like those of Drummond.

Except a fine Splachnum, probably the same as the one collected by Drummond near New Orleans, (I have no my microscope with me) and Sphagnum macrophyllum sterile and some othe Sphagna which I collected before in Alabama, I did not find in the Dismall swamp anything interesting for Botany. The flora is very poor; but the swamp is remarkable on account of the formation of the peat which I never observed in such southern latitude. I think I could find the same formation in full activity as South as the everglades of Florida. Drummonds lake is, as I supposed it, formed by a depression or sinking of the ground. evidently the depression continues at our epoch. — But I have not time to give you

many details about what I saw there. — You want some indications about the localities which I found more interesting in the southern mountains, I will try to give them to you, though I have not here my notes, nither the names of the plants which I collected. I begann my journey in S. W. Tennessee near Domen went up the Cumberland to Nashville, theme to Huntsville Ala. and crossed the mountains from W. to E. so that I finished the exploration exactly at the same place where the Gent: of whom you speak is beginning his researches. Mr. Sullivant had explored very closely French broad river, my time and money were out, so I stopped a few days only at Ashville N. C. to go from theme to the summit of Black mts. This locality is very rich for the cryptogamous plants, but except Clintonia Borealis and some orchideæ I did not collect any rare phænogamous plant. Nevertheless, I think that a station of one week at the base of black Mt. 15 miles E. of Ashland, at an old hunter Burnet, where one may be comfortably, would give good result. This place is surrounded by very high mountains of difficult access and where probably one might find many interesting plants. As I tell you, I visited only the highest peak of the Black Mt. and remained only three days in this small valley. Proceeding from Ashville through Pendleton, a very fine place for a long station is Clarksville Ga. One may easily go there by stages. — Toccao falls, Tallaloh falls, Union Cy. Donah mt. Tray Mt., Union gap at the top of blue ridge, all theses localities are easily visited from this place and all, especially Tallaloh falls are very rich. There is at these falls a good hotel where your friend could perhaps stop a few days; I was there only two days and I much regreeted that I could not follow up the river till far in the mountains where there are dark recesses which good for new plants I think. It is the only place where I found in abundance Veratrum asphodeloides with plenty of other fine species. I obtained there Sphagnum molle N. in fruit. From Clarksville W. up the valley of the Nantuchee one sees a few miles on the right Tray Mt. the highest summit of the ridge.

I would not visit it. the way is difficult and I found nobody who would come there as a guide. But this summit is not many feet higher than Union gap and wreed of trees like the last. It is of no interest for the cryptogamous plants. On the left is Yonah Mt more broken where I found a new Macromitrium but no rare phaenogamous plants. - 15 miles farther up is Union gap where one arrives by a deep and dark valley with a splendid vegetation. Ilex opaca is there a tree very ~~abundant~~ 50 to 100 feet high. At the summit of Union gap on the peaks which Domine the road both side, I found a fine Trillium, T. catesbæi, I think and many other good species. The road down the mountains on the other side, along High-wassee river is also very interesting. Toccao fall is south of Clarksville 12 m. I fand there a very remarkable and new Schistheimia. But the place is too dry for the phaenogamous plants. Between Clarksville and Asheville, I stopped two weeks at Dickens P. O. to explore from this place Table rock, Cesar's head, both very fine localities for the scenery but too well known and visited by botanists and where is nothing new to be found. At the foot of Table rock Mt I collected a few specimens of the handsome Dozonia ~~radiata~~ fimbriata? (I think; for I don't remember the name of these southern plants described by Elliott. I visited also Oconee Mt., Glassy Mt; Devil's P. O. Cherokee Mt all poor and dry granitic Mts. I would not advise any botanist to go there except perhaps to explore closely the Cherokee Mts. Perhaps Dahlonegha, Ellijoy in Gilmer Cy Ga. would be interesting stations. But there is great difficulty to approach these Mts. There is not stage and the only mode of travelling is on horseback. I crossed ~~from~~ to Clarksville from Stone Mt stopping at Gainesville. these countries like what they name the blue ridge, between Clarksv. and Gainesv. is not very interesting. The ridge is low, it is the true Chattahoochee Mts 500 feet high, no more; I could not collect there a rare plant though a Dr living at the sulfur springs near Gainesville affirmed that he had found a small handsome plant nearly like a violet and which was nowhere described. As he could not show me the plant and as I am too well acquainted with the botanical attainments of those country Doctors,

I would scarcely think worth going there expressly to look at the undescribed plant. The good Doctor had well heard from you and from Dr. Gray, he told me he knew both your names; but he had never seen the works of any one of you. From stone Mt. very interesting for one day visit, one has to take the cars on the railroad till Rome Ga. thence the stage to Van Buren Ala. and here is certainly the best and most profitable station for a Botanist. I was there three weeks, but I would I had lived at the place three months; for I had had very small expenses of money and the result of my journey would have been better. It is truly a loss of time and money to runn from one place to another and to explore in three months so large a country. A good station is enough for a whole year and if I ever have opportunity, it is my purpose to go directly in April to these mountains of Alabama and to explore them closely at least for three months. I was told that since July the mountain are dry and barren. — Van Buren lies in a valley between Lookout Mt. and Sand or Racoon Mt. both parallel ridges running from N. to S. It is not possible to tell what abundance of flowers covers these mountains. They are not very high; a thousand feet perhaps; but on their broad sandy surface there run a great many rivulets forming or marshes, or deep chasmes, or water falls where the vegetation is much diversified and truly admirable. If I had my notes, I would give you a long nomenclature of the rare plants which I collected there. For the mosses only, I had three new Sphagna, a new pharcum, many Bryi and plenty of the rarest species. The Tennessee is very interesting. The country around Wartrille especially I found very rich. I collected there a new Dermatodon and a Vesicaria which I think also new. You may find a specimen of it in the bundle of plants left at Mr Carey for examination; perhaps this bundle has been sent now to Mr Gray for three months of travelling south, I spent $250. Too much for me; but every where in South, journeying is very expensive. Mr Sullivant gave me for the journey $100 only. But I hope that I will sell enough of our collection of mosses to remunerate there expenses, and if it is the case, I will probably go next year to the Mts of Alabama for an exploration of a few months.

This letter is very poor, Dear Sir; but you will excuse it on account of my ignorance of your language, of the absence of my notes and of the want of time. I have here very hard work with the collecting of the fossil plants which I am studying with the greatest pleasure. The field is new, very rich, and so most interesting. — If I find something in the swamps of N. Jersey I will write you about.

I would be very happy to be worth of your friendly remembrance and assure you that I am very respectfully yours

Lo Lesquereux

Prof: John Torrey.

TORREY CORRESPONDENCE
HERBARIUM
COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY.